

The COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Ages 5-11

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR PARENTS



The COVID-19 vaccine has been proven to be safe and effective for children ages 5-17.

As of October 21, 2021, nearly 6.3 million children across the country tested positive for COVID-19. More than 1.1 million of those cases were added during the last six weeks. While severe illness is less common in children, some children can become severely ill, and the longer-term impacts of COVID-19 infection are unknown. In addition, the pandemic continues to impact the emotional and mental health of children.

Even children who have already had COVID-19 should be vaccinated, if they are eligible.

Even if your child has already recovered from COVID-19, it is possible that they could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 again. Getting vaccinated is a safer way to build protection than getting infected.

The side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine, if any, are mild and short in duration.

In fact, many people have no side effects at all. The most common symptoms are soreness at the vaccine site, headache and fatigue, which typically last for 1-2 days. These symptoms are a sign that the vaccine is working! The other risk parents worry about is myocarditis. Fortunately, this risk is rare, something most people recover from on their own and is much more likely after an actual COVID-19 illness.

COVID-19 vaccines do not cause infertility.

There is no data or scientific evidence to support that the COVID-19 vaccine impacts fertility in any way.

The COVID-19 vaccine pediatric formulation is a smaller dose than the adult and adolescent formulation.

As with adults, children will require two doses administered three weeks apart.

Your child can receive routine shots, including the annual flu shot, at either of their COVID-19 vaccination appointments.

It is important that children who missed routine vaccinations during the pandemic get caught up. It is safe to receive the flu shot and other routine vaccinations along with the COVID-19 vaccine.



Before a vaccine is authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it must undergo rigorous testing to evaluate its safety and efficacy.

COVID-19 VACCINE SAFETY

How do I know the vaccine is safe for my child?

More than 192 million individuals in the U.S. have been fully vaccinated. We now have extensive data, including the research from the Pfizer clinical studies, to show the vaccine to be safe and effective in children ages 5-11.

The COVID-19 vaccine has been thoroughly tested on children.

For the past 30 years, hundreds of researchers have worked on mRNA, the key component in COVID-19 vaccines. The COVID-19 vaccine has been extremely effective and extensively tested to show they are safe for use in children.

Children account for about **25% of the U.S. population**. Providing the COVID-19 vaccine to kids is critical to slow the spread of the virus and end the pandemic.



WHERE CAN MY ELIGIBLE CHILD GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

Visit <https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov> to find a vaccine location near you.

Vaccines for children ages 5-11 will be administered at **pediatric or primary care offices, children's hospitals, schools and pharmacies** across the state.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION about the COVID-19 vaccines, visit:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines

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